

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/0/VCM/R25-68
FOLLOW-UP NUMBER 1 TO
2/0/VCM/R13-68
SPOT REPORT
AVC,AVN/OPER-G-H/.
19 JANUARY 1968 2148Z
DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR ALFA
PLUS USM-604
HCF

FOLLOW-UP NUMBER 1 TO

PAVN 1ST DIVISION ELEMENT RECEIVES PLANS FOR ATTACKS

IN PLEIKU PROVINCE (172014Z)

Additional messages relating to possible impending attacks in western Pleiku Province were transmitted on 18 and 19 January by a probable Hq, PAVN 1st Division element to a probable Hq, PAVN B3 Front authority. These messages provided certain details relating to the movement of the probable 1st Division element in western Pleiku. A message passed at 0610Z on 18 January stated: "Combined report for 16, 17 and 18 January 1968. On 16 January the unit moved well. At 1100 hours we were one hour away from the river bank. At 1800 hours we crossed the river safely. We then moved to a point three hours away from the river where we stopped and rested. 18 January 68: from 0100 to 0200 hours we moved to Chu Ram Ya [14-20N 107-07E, YA 845295]. On the 17th the troops were affected by fears of difficulty and tension." The message continued: "The operation went well on 18 [January]. At 1100 hours we arrived at the final point specified by higher echelon. The troops were all enthusiastic." The message concluded: "We left three sick comrades at the river bank."

Another message passed by this probable Hq, 1st Division element at 0308Z on 19 January stated: "Enemy situation in the Le Thanh and Sung Le areas. Aircraft flew up and down often and artillery conducted frequent restrictive firing in the two areas. Helicopters took off from Le Thanh many times, flew to the southeast, then circled to the northwest. L-19's also soared over these areas.

The probable Hq, 1st Division element transmitting these messages was located by SIGINT on 18 January near 13-50N 107-50E (YA 812308), about 7 km to the west-northwest of Le Thanh in western Pleiku.

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